Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

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"WHO IS A JEW AND WHAT IS JUDAISM?" TO BE EXPLORED IN DEPTH THIS SUNDAY NIGHT

Bertram Loeb To Receive Citizen of the Year Award on February 26

B'nai B'rith Ottawa Lodge No. 885 will present its Citizen of the Year Award for 1963 to Bertram Loeb, president of M. Loeb, Ltd. at a Citation Dinner to be held in his honour on Wednesday evening, February 26 at the Jewish Community Centre.

The award instituted by the Lodge in 1952 is presented annually to a citizen of Ottawa "for meritorious services rendered in the broadest principles of devotion to country and humanity".

Previous recipients have been Fred McCann, 1952; the late Dr. Maxwell MacOdrum, 1953; Alex Betcherman, 1954; Very Rev. Father Rodrigue Normandin, 1955; Judge A. Gordon McDougall, Q.C., 1956; Mrs. John Aylen, 1957; Hon. M. Gratton O'Leary, 1958; Lawrence Freiman, 1959; Right Rev. Bishop John O. Anderson, 1960; Magistrate Glenn E. Strike, Q.C., 1961; Frank Patten, 1962.

Mr. Loeb's selection as the twelfth "Citizen of the Year" pays tribute to his service to the community in the fields of education, commerce, philanthropy and endowment of medical research programs.

Born in Ottawa and educated at New York University, the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Mr. Loeb is currently first national vice-president of the Zionist Organization of Canada, national chairman of the United Israel Appeal and a governor of Carleton University.

Bertram Loeb

He is a past president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir and a former general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, State of Israel Bond Drive and the Community Centre Building Fund Campaign. During the war, he organized No. 54 B'nai B'rith Air Cadet Squadron and served in the Royal Canadian Artillery. He has also been a director of the Ottawa Board of Trade and was the first chairman of the City of Ottawa Parking Authority.

In 1958, at the request of the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Loeb organized the first supermarket chain in that country. In recognition, he was named one of Israel's "Ten Men of the Year". In 1962, he received the Community Service Award from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Hyman Soloway, Q.C. is chairman of the Citation Dinner Committee. Tickets may be obtained from David Molot, Sam Lampert, Len Dworkin, Norman Lesh or Nap Kapinsky.

An exceptionally large attendance is expected at the dinner and anyone planning to attend would be wise to procure his tickets immediately.

Feast of Purim
Thursday, February 27

First Pesach Seder
Friday evening, March 27

THE OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN is published by the Jewish Community Council, 151 Chapel St., Ottawa, Canada. Alex Betcherman, honorary president; Hyman Bessin, president; Mervin Mirsky, Jules Loeb, Arnold Lithwick, vice-presidents; Reuben Kallo, treasurer; David Appotive, honorary secretary; Hy Hochberg, executive director. Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.

Dr. Trude Weiss-Rosmarin of New York, editor of the Jewish Spectator, one of the most widely read Anglo-Jewish periodicals in America today, will appear in the third program of the Jewish Community Centre's new Showcase Series on Sunday, February 9 at 8:30 P.M.

A prolific author and writer and a dynamic speaker, Dr. Weiss-Rosmarin has been invited back time and again to address audiences in most of the major cities of the United States and Canada. Her topic is timely and challenging and is certain to attract many who are looking for answers to this complex question.

"A Jew must approach the world as a Jew", declares Dr. Weiss-Rosmarin, "otherwise he will be a warped human being". She has expounded this idea in various books and essays and in many of her lecture and forum discussions.

An erudite and challenging writer, her essays and reviews appear in leading Jewish journals the world over and her books are widely quoted. Her philosophical book "Religion of Reason" and her "The Hebrew Moses: An Answer to Sigmund Freud" have won the acclaim of leading scholars.

Her range of topics is phenomenal and even more astounding is the erudition and competence with which she handles her many different themes. She excels in the "question period" sequels to her lectures, thanks to her quick response and penetrating comments.

Widely travelled and a frequent sojourner in Israel, she knows most of the leaders and thinkers who make contemporary Jewish history. David Ben-Gurion has acclaimed her major essays on Jewish survival and Zionist ideology and her policy-setting addresses at conferences are often quoted.

Independent, original and full of personality, Dr. Weiss-Rosmarin has a disarming sense of humour and can quote with equal facility from the Talmud, the medieval Jewish philosophers, Shakespeare, Aristotle, Kant, Sartre and Toynbee.

Dr. Trude Weiss-Rosmarin

The Showcase Series is presented by the Adult Program Committee of the Jewish Community Centre of which Dr. Nathan Schecter is chairman. Mrs. Lawrence Bilsky and Mrs. Simon Adams are the chairman and vice-chairman of a group of women who are interesting themselves in promoting the series because they believe the project is worthwhile and should be supported.

Tickets for the Rosmarin lecture are $1.00 for Centre members, $1.50 general admission and 50¢ for students.

OVER 600 PACK AUDITORIUM IN MASS DEMONSTRATION

Hyman Bessin, president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir rises to open the Public Forum dedicated to the position of Soviet Jewry on January 8 following the All-Canadian Rabbinic Conference held at the Jewish Community Centre that day. With him on the platform are Maurice W. Wright, Q.C. who acted as moderator and the panelists, Dr. Walter S. Wurzburger and Dr. Stuart E. Rosenberg, Toronto and Ben Zion Goldberg, New York. The compelling nature of the protest rally attracted more than 600 people, one of the largest gatherings of its type in recent years. The resolution which was unanimously adopted is reprinted beside this picture.

Jewish Community of Ottawa

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE PUBLIC FORUM DEDICATED TO THE POSITION OF SOVIET JEWRY

Wednesday, January 8, 1964

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Gravely disturbed at the evidence which mounts daily that the large Jewish community in the Soviet Union is prevented from pursuing a collective Jewish life by the closing of Synagogues; the deprivation of opportunities for practicing religious observances; the constant and continuous curtailment of Jewish cultural activities and publications; constant press references to Jews charged with economic offences and the unusual severity of penalties for such offences including death sentences, all of which leads to the ineluctable conclusion that the Jews in Russia are denied the rights which are accorded to other groups and nationalities.

We direct an earnest appeal to the Soviet Union for a redress of this situation and we express the hope that Soviet Jewry will be permitted to unite for common religious purposes, for the development of Jewish cultural activity, for Jewish education for their children, for formal religious and cultural bonds with Jewish communities in other lands and that it be given an opportunity for self-expression as members of the historic and ancient Jewish people.

We further express the hope that the Soviet Union, in keeping with the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, to which it subscribed, will grant permission to those Jews who want to leave the U.S.S.R. to be reunited with their families in other lands from whom they have been separated.

We appeal to the Government of Canada to use its good offices with the Soviet authorities to improve the lot of the Jews in Russia.

Vaad Business Is Everybody's Business

by Hy Bessin

President, Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir

The Religious Affairs and Rabbinical Committee of the Vaad which is composed of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of all Synagogues and the Rabbis of the community, headed by Alex Betcherman, has decided to establish standards for the performance of Brit Milah (ritual circumcision) which will require the accreditation and certification of all new practioners in the community. Mohalim will be accredited by the Vaad Ha'Ir on satisfactorily passing and maintaining the halachic and medical requirements established by the Vaad and its technical advisory committee. Applications for certification are invited and should be addressed to the Office of the Vaad Ha'Ir, 151 Chapel St. and be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a Synagogue.

The question of standards for Bar-Mitzvah has been the subject of discussion by the Talmud Torah Board and the Synagogues for many years. There is no doubt that minimum standards of education and some basic qualifications are necessary if the concept of Bar-Mitzvah is to retain its spirit and purpose. I was, therefore, pleased to receive a draft set of guidelines from the Talmud Torah Board which was considered by the Religious Affairs Committee and has now been referred to the Synagogues for study and comment. We have asked for their views no later than April 1.

Our Rabbis tell us that the practice of extending condolences to bereaved families in the parlours of the Jewish Community Memorial Chapel prior to funerals is not in keeping with Jewish tradition and that the place for such expressions is in the home during the week of Shiva. You will, therefore, have noticed that the parlours have been restricted to family only and that signs to this effect have been posted. The Chevra Kadisha would be grateful if you would guide yourself accordingly in future and proceed directly to the Main Chapel on arrival for a funeral. The Chevra Kadisha is also at work on a useful booklet describing the laws of mourning which will be distributed to the community at large.

A Problem and a Challenge

by Samuel Mirsky, M.D.

Chairman, Ottawa Talmud Torah Board

Jewish education in Ottawa, at its elementary level, is making excellent progress. Demands for enrollment in Hillel Academy Day School are increasing considerably, so much so, that adequate accommodation is becoming a problem.

The school that was built in the West End was initially planned for an afternoon school with five classrooms. Shortly after the school was built, the West End Branch of Hillel Academy was inaugurated. Next fall, grade 7 and the following year grade 8 will be opened and we will therefore require two more classrooms and the auxilliary space that is needed for a full Day School.

At the Central Branch, present enrollment in the kindergarten is nearly sufficient to start two grade 1 classes. If the enrollment of beginners to grade 1 follows the usual pattern it will be necessary to have two grade 1's in the fall. This, however, means that there will be two classes for this grade 1 right through to grade 8. and if we continue to have such excellent enrollment annually in the kindergarten, the Central Hillel Academy could be doubled in seven years.

From an educational point of view nothing could be more desirable. The Talmud Torah Board is determined that no child desiring Jewish education should be denied that privilege. From a financial point of view, however, it could prove overwhelming. It may even be necessary that through the Canadian Jewish Congress some assistance towards our secular education should again be sought from the province. However, this is a long-term solution.

For the immediate solution of our problem, it is absolutely imperative for parents who plan to send their children to grade 1 of the Hillel Academy, that they register the children not later than April 1, 1964.

The Board will require that information at that date in order to make satisfactory arrangements for teachers and classroom space and transportation for the opening of classes in September.

As far as the afternoon schools are concerned, there are still many children not receiving adequate Jewish education or none at all. Parents in the Alta Vista area and extreme West End are urgently requested to register their children by April 1. Classes may be opened in a public school in those areas or a taxi service or pool will be arranged.

Please address all communications to Ephraim Frankel, director of education, Ottawa Talmud Torah, 453 Rideau St.

Council Vice-President

Hyman Soloway, Q.C., president of the Jewish Community Centre was elected a vice-president of the Canadian Council of YMHA's and Jewish Community Centres at the conclusion of its two-day annual conference in Ottawa on January 25 and 26. Serving with Mr. Soloway are Samuel J. Granatstein, Toronto, president; Saul H. Levine, Montreal and A. R. Micay, Q.C., Winnipeg, vice-presidents; Max Stein, Hamilton, treasurer; Melvin Sorffer, Windsor and Mrs. R. J. Rubin, Montreal, secretaries; David Andrews, Toronto, executive director.

Annual Carnival Saturday, Feb. 15

The members of B'nai B'rith Parliament Chapter 1041 will hold their Annual Carnival at the Jewish Community Centre on Saturday, February 15 at 8:15 p.m.

There will be games, refreshments, prizes and an original musical show directed by Stephen Coplan with choreography by his wife Bobbie. "Take Her She's Mine" features Louella Molot and Al Shapiro in the leading roles with an all-star cast of many well-known faces.

Tickets are $1.00 per person and may be purchased at the door. Mrs. Noreen Abrams is convener.

OTTAWA MODERN JEWISH SCHOOL

SQUARE DANCE

Saturday, February 8, 8:30 P.M.

M. Loeb Ltd. Social Hall

Tickets — $3.00 per couple including refreshments. Available at the door or by calling 722-5495

1964 Bond Chairman

The appointment of A. Louis Achbar as general chairman of the 1964 State of Israel Bond Drive in Ottawa has been announced by Hyman Bessin, president of the Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir. Mr. Achbar brings to his new post a life-long devotion to Israel and many years of local and national leadership in the Histadrut Campaign, the United Jewish Appeal, Jewish education and numerous phases of community service.

Heads Camp B'nai B'rith

Stanley L. Glube, who has been intimately associated with the technical and administrative operations of Camp B'nai B'rith for the past eight years, has been elected chairman of the Board of Directors. He succeeds to the post held by Joel Barrett for the past two years. Mr. Glube is a past president of B'nai B'rith Ottawa Lodge and a trustee of the Agudath Israel Congregation.

CAMP B'NAI B'RITH CAMPER — WAITERS

A limited number of 14 to 16 year old boy are required as camper-waiters. The group will be supervised by a counselor and integrated into the overall camp program.

Fees will be reduced to $100. from the regular camper fee of $400. for the season. Applications and a $25. deposit should be sent to Sidney Shapiro, 638 Fraser Ave.

Day Camp Staff Required

The Jewish Community Centre invites applications for the following staff positions for the 1964 season beginning July 6 and ending August 14:

Camp Director — Mature, responsible man or woman with previous camp experience in a senior position and training in social work, teaching or allied fields.

Unit Heads — Minimum age 20 with at least three years working experience in a camp setting. Applicants should have completed one year in a university or teacher's training institute.

Senior Counselors — Minimum age 17 with at least two years working experience in a camp or as a club leader at the Centre.

Junior Counselors — Minimum age 16 with at least one year of leadership training in a camp or as a club leader at the Centre.

Counselors-in-Training — Minimum age 15. Applicants shall have a desire to learn and be willing to participate in a training program.

Preference will be given to Centre members.
Application forms may be obtained from the Centre.

PLAY FINAL SCHEDULED GAME SATURDAY NIGHT

The Jewish Community Centre's entry in the Intermediate City Basketball League takes on Computing Devices of Canada in the last regular game of the season on Saturday, February 8 at 7:30 P.M. in the gymnasium. Despite the loss of some of the veterans of previous years, Coach Morris Schachnow and his boys have come through with a tremendous effort and now have six wins and four losses to their credit. A win on Saturday night will clinch a playoff berth. A little encouragement will go a long way. Come out and cheer your team to victory. Seated, left to right: Elliott Levitan, Stanley Arran, Morris Schachnow, Abe Nadrich, manager, Elliot Arran. Standing, left to right: Ronald Levitan, Joel Cohen, Sheldon Kopinsky. Missing: Allan Freed and David Slipacoff.